

IRRIGATION THE KEY TO FUTURE WEALTH

Nation Slow to Appreciate Its Importance.

CONGRESS MEETS IN SPOKANE

Col. Scott Vigorously Appeals to the Agricultural Element to Become Interested in the Subject—Declares the Way Question Is Answered Means Life of Republic.

Spokane, Wash., July 3.—"Nowhere in the world is agriculture so intelligent as in the irrigated regions; nowhere is it so productive, and nowhere else have the problems of poverty, isolation, and failure been so effectively attacked."

Harvey W. Scott, editor of the Portland Oregonian, who has been actively identified with practically every uplift movement in the Northwest during the last thirty-five years, says this in urging co-operation and commenting upon the importance to the nation of the National Irrigation Congress, which will have its seventeenth session in Spokane August 9 to 14, under the presidency of George E. Barstow, of Barstow, Tex.

"If the people were interested in events in proportion to their importance," continues Col. Scott, "the irrigation congress next August would plunge the whole country into the excitement of the national congress. One imagines, however, that our national equanimity will not be greatly perturbed by it."

Not Easy to Arouse Nation. "Although the subject to be discussed relates vitally to human happiness, although the way we finally answer the questions which the eminent speakers at the congress will raise may decide whether 500 years from now the United States shall be a flourishing empire or a desert solitude, nevertheless it will not be easy to arouse more than a perfunctory public interest."

"The great names of the orators, the pomp of civic festivity, the display of governmental science, will all be held to hold the languid ear of the indifferent farmer, whom nothing short of an earthquake will compel to think or study. Irrigation would rain gold into his tubs if he would set them out, but he won't until he is harried and hounded into doing it."

"But the farmer is no worse than other men. Few of us take more than a feeble and spasmodic interest in the things that concern us most deeply. Consider how speedily an audience vanishes whenever a speaker touches on education, a subject whose import is even weightier than irrigation."

"It is only by fits and starts that we can be induced to think of the salvation of our immortal souls. Some sporadic 'Billy Sunday' can turn our attention to these precious entities once in a while, but how long does it stay fixed? Some dancing a frivolous horripole makes us forget time and eternity."

Farmer Naturally Slow. "If man were a truly rational being the minute he learned that irrigation would double the produce of his farm, even in such a favored region as the Willamette valley, he would rush to build dams and dig ditches, but he doesn't. He waits until somebody has pushed and prodded him."

"Think how long it has taken some of the rural brethren to begin spraying their apple trees. They know that a few doses of lead arsenate would save their fruit from ruin and line their pockets with dollars, but not a drop did they pray until a paternal government stepped in and gave them no choice. As a race we are just as lazy and short-sighted as we are, and most of us would far prefer to swing a heavy sledge hammer ten hours rather than think for ten minutes."

"Such congresses as the one which will meet in Spokane are more valuable for reiterating old truths than for revealing new ones. Irrigation is at that saves the world from a relapse into barbaric squalor. Hearing the truth about irrigation or anything else once only does us not the least benefit. We must hear it a thousand times and in every possible key."

Bulk on Insurance. "The Massachusetts savings bank insurance scheme was based on the supposition that when life insurance was made cheap and easy every person who needed it would step up and buy it. No madder dream was ever dreamed. The project has been open many months, but only two banks are offering insurance, and there is nobody to buy. To persuade us to insure our lives and save our wives and children from destitution we need a brain-tongued agent to ring an alarm in our ears."

"Mankind is like the starving pauper who was on his way to the graveyard and was buried alive for his indolence. The judge of the underworld to spend sentence if anybody would feed the condemned. A kind farmer offered a meal of corn. 'Is it shelled?' inquired the pauper, with languid interest. No, it was not. 'Drive on, then,' said the pauper. We need such gatherings as the National Irrigation Congress to shell our corn for us."

Irrigation Starts Science. "Civilization originated in countries where men were forced to irrigate the land or perish. In Babylonia and Egypt were laid the foundations of every science and all the arts. The reason is plain enough. Irrigation drives men to think and plan, and the one hand and the other. The habit of thinking about one subject leads him to exercise his brain on others, and presently he discovers the great truth that while the four primary objects are to save the forests, store the floods, reclaim the deserts, and make homes on the land, other matters of importance to farmers, orchardists, and fruit growers in general will be discussed by the foremost men in the country, announcing also that considerable time will be given to discussing problems in connection with the reclamation of swamp lands, good roads, deep waterways, and better husbandry."

Counting Strokes. From the Atchison Globe.

This reporter went into a barber shop this morning to be shaved. The barber said: "Ever know that in shaving a man a barber uses 540 strokes?" Then we kept count and the number of strokes of the razor in shaving one over was 132. But the barber said we should have counted the strokes in lathering, the strokes in applying the stinging stuff where he had cut a wart, the strokes in applying powder, bay rum, etc.

SELLS COTTON AT 11 CENTS.

High Level for Staple Suits One Shrewd South Carolina Planter. Chester, July 3.—One of the biggest sales of cotton ever made in this part of the State was pulled off last week, when Mr. S. M. Jones, of this city, sold to George McFadden & Brothers, the big importers, through their representatives, J. G. Barton, 372 bales of cotton at 11 cents, the price for the lot being \$4,092. This cotton was grown on Mr. Jones' big 17-acre place, York County, which he recently sold to Mr. E. A. Willis, of Lynchburg, Va. Mr. Jones has in storage at Rock Hill 179 bales, which he will sell at some future time, and which he raised on the plantation that he recently sold to Mr. W. G. Hughes.

Mr. Jones has been one of the most successful farmers in all the State, but has decided to draw in his business, hence the sale of these magnificent wealth-producing plantations.

OPENING THE COAL MINES

Demand for Fuel Increasing in Towns of Oklahoma.

Plants in Several Counties Running on Full Time and Orders Piling Up.

McAlester, Okla., July 3.—Ben Richards, superintendent of the mines at Brower, received a telephone message from the operators to be sure and get them on an early train as they intended starting work at mine No. 2 at once. Mines Nos. 1 and 3 have been in steady operation for three weeks and now the third one is to be started. The trade is picking up right along.

The Bolen-Darrell mine No. 3 was put into operation this week. The company has been waiting until they thought the demand would justify full time. They have orders for lump sufficient to insure this, and with the way trade is picking up they think the egg and nut can be taken care of so as to enable them to operate on full time.

The Great Western Coal and Coke Company's mine at Baker is in operation, and both mines at Wilburton are running. The Cossie mine No. 5 is working 150 men and Osage No. 6 is working regularly, although shut down while new scales are being installed. The Samples mine expects to open some time next week.

All the shippers say the trade for lump coal is good, much of this being occasioned by the thrashing season, and then, too, the Texas trade is coming back, many of the plants in that State changing from oil back to coal. The Southern Pacific Railroad Company some time ago ordered all its freight engines changed from oil to coal burners.

There is every indication for a big fall trade. The State board of public affairs is asking for bids on 7,000 tons of coal. The McAlester Fuel Company will bid on this, and if the Bolen-Darrell Company bids on it, it will be to supply coal other than their own product, as it is understood the State uses a cheaper grade of coal than the company produces. Other companies in the district having coal of varying quality will also probably bid on the State coal.

HELPS TO BOOST THE SOUTH

Beaumont Enterprise Praises The Washington Herald.

Texas Alive to Value of Publicity as Aid to Obtaining Settlers.

From the Beaumont (Tex.) Enterprise. An innovation which means much for the South is the Southern Industrial Section which has been established by The Washington Herald. It was five weeks ago that this section was first printed, and in that time 172 articles touching upon cities of the South have been printed, of which 31 were from Texas cities.

Last Sunday's issue carried a letter from Beaumont to the pen of Secretary Larkin. The number of letters from Texas is noticeable, for, although this is a much larger State geographically than the others, yet it is behind them, or most of them, in industrial development, and the thirty-one communications from Texas, compared with the six from Georgia and five from Kentucky, is proof that the Texas commercial secretary is on his job and always taking advantage of every opportunity for publicity.

This work is commendable in that the Herald is published at the nation's Capital and is read by men from all parts of the Union, so that the publicity there attained is of the widest kind. It is very kindly toward the South, and this publicity of Southern progress will serve to inspire the people of the Southern States with confidence in themselves.

Its facts will serve to bring the South in its true light before the rest of the country and thus enhance the progress that is already under way, and here it may be said that if the united efforts of the commercial secretaries of the South and The Washington Herald are successful in advancing the values of the South \$1 per acre it will mean an enrichment for this section of \$600,000,000.

AMERICANS IN THE SOUTH.

Important Phase of Immigration as Seen in Census Reports.

From the New Orleans Picayune. The census of 1900 showed that of the North Atlantic States 25.6 per cent of the population was foreign born. Of the North Central States the foreign percentage was 15.5. Of the Western division the foreign element was 20.7 per cent. On the other hand, in the South Atlantic States the foreign element was only 2.1 per cent; in the South Central it was 2.5 per cent. Thus it is seen that the Southern States are inhabited by a native American population, while enormous additions of foreigners have been made to all the Northern and Western States, as foreign immigrants during nearly the whole of the past decade have been coming in at the rate of nearly a million a year, so that the next census will show an enormously increasing proportion of foreigners. It would not be surprising to find that there are Northern and Western States that will show by next year's census a preponderance of foreigners.

If such a state of things should induce native Americans from such States to seek associations and conditions more to their taste, nothing could be more natural. That there is a steady flow of Northern people seeking homes in the South has become a most noticeable feature of the recent drift of population, and that it will steadily increase is to be confidently expected. It is certain that many have come to Louisiana, where they have found conditions of climate and of agriculture greatly to their advantage, while business opportunities are offered on every hand to capital and enterprise.

ATLANTA MEETING WILL BE NOTABLE

Interesting Subjects to Be Discussed There.

HELD IN NEW AUDITORIUM

Southern Progress, Good Roads, Advertising, Publicity, and Kindred Topics Will Be Presented by Prominent Men at Annual Gathering of Commercial Secretaries—Many Delegates Are Expected.

New Orleans, July 3.—The programme of the Southern Commercial Secretaries' Association for the convention to be held in Atlanta July 7 and 8 has been announced, and it will be actively participated in by several of the leading business men as well as prominent secretaries of the South.

John M. Barker, of New Orleans, a wealthy cotton planter, banker, and spot cotton man, who is president of the Southern Commercial Congress; Asa C. Candler, president of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and one of Georgia's foremost business men; Robert F. Maddox, whose accession to the majority of Atlanta at the demand of the business interests was a matter of national concern last year, and Gen. Clifford L. Anderson, of "good roads" fame, are among those who will make addresses.

Manager Dave Will Speak. "Southern progress" will be discussed by G. Grosvenor Dave, managing director of the Southern Commercial Congress. M. B. Trezevant, secretary of the New Orleans Progressive Union and president of the Louisiana Commercial Secretaries' Association, has been assigned the subject, "Corporation of commercial organizations and the press." H. H. Haines, secretary Galveston Chamber of Commerce, will discuss the "Commission form of government for cities," a topic of special interest in view of Texas, and especially Galveston's, experiences in this respect.

J. A. Arnold, president of the Texas Commercial Secretaries' Association, will discuss "Commercial organizations and legislation." George S. Weaver, secretary of the Commercial Club, of Montgomery, Ala., will talk upon the question of "Co-operation of commercial secretaries." Alexander W. Smith, a distinguished Georgian, will discuss the work of the "Commercial organizations in municipal betterment," in which he will be joined by E. R. Richardson, secretary of the Boston Chamber of Commerce. Gen. Clifford L. Anderson, of Atlanta, will speak upon "Road building with new taxes and new methods," and will be joined by Charles W. Johnson, superintendent of road construction, United States government, will deliver an address upon "Improved roads and how to secure them." H. H. Richardson, secretary of the Jacksonville (Fla.) Board of Trade, will discuss "Municipal advertising."

Railroad Men Will Take Part. Other addresses will be made by H. A. Trudley, industrial agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, on "Co-operation between advertising departments of railroads and commercial secretaries," and by A. H. Grady, of Chattanooga, on "Substituted plants for manufacturing."

W. B. Royter, president, who is secretary of the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce, and Edwin L. Quarles, secretary, who is secretary of the Petersburg (Va.) Chamber of Commerce, will make the annual reports, and, together with W. G. Crockett, secretary of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, are working vigorously to secure a large and representative gathering of commercial secretaries of the South, who number nearly 1,000.

The commissions of agriculture of the Southern States, the mayors of cities, the passenger agents, and the advertising immigration industrial agents of Southern railroads have been invited to attend, and all Southern railroads have made special low rates for the occasion.

The delegates will be taken for an automobile ride to the ancestral home of Theodore Roosevelt at Roswell, Ga., over what is said to be one of the finest racetracks in the South. The banquet will be given at the Piedmont Hotel. The convention will be held in the auditorium just erected by the city of Atlanta, one of the largest convention halls in the United States. The city of Atlanta is after the 1910 convention, and in addition proposes a trip to Panama from that port.

MEANS MUCH TO THE SOUTH.

Southern Commercial Headquarters in Washington Commanded.

From the New York Commercial Journal. The announcement that a building to cost \$500,000 will be erected in Washington at once as a base of operations for the Southern Commercial Congress should command the attention of Americans in general, but it should arouse the instant enthusiasm of Southern Americans in particular.

It proclaims a definite, established organization with efficient machinery for the upbuilding of Southern industry and commerce by spreading everywhere knowledge of Southern resources, advantages, and potential wealth, by intercepting capital in Southern enterprises, and by exerting a powerful influence in behalf of Southern productivity and prosperity. Its significance is peculiarly appealing to Southerners, therefore, since its aims are peculiarly Southern in spirit and allegiance.

The South has witnessed a revolution in its material development during the period following the civil war. From a leisure-loving community of aristocratic planters the section, while still clinging to the theory of the South not sectional, has changed into a region in which industry has achieved recognition as the magic which brings independence and in which commerce has gained ascendancy as a force which gives substance to life. Nor has the South yet got a fair start upon its industrial and commercial career. There are resources untouched, dormant, and even underevaluated. They await the man of grit and ambition, the nourishing hands of the capitalist. When the South really comes into its own it will be a vigorous, wealthy, teeming region, a veritable empire within an empire, a section that is not sectional, either in sentiment or business, but national and even cosmopolitan in its relation to the rest of the world.

First Shipment of Apples.

Mount Airy, N. C., July 3.—P. D. Muse, Mount Airy's veteran produce shipper, has made his first shipment of apples this season Wednesday. His first shipment of cabbage went out the day before. This is earlier than usual to begin shipping produce from this city to distant points.

WEALTH IN HONEY.

Product Has Specially Fine Flavor in Southwest Texas.

San Antonio, Tex., July 3.—Of the 5,000,000-pound honey crop of Texas, at least 3,500,000 pounds will come from the vicinity of San Antonio. Uvalde County will furnish nearly 3,000,000 pounds of this delicacy and Kinney County no less than 600,000 pounds. Uvalde County has long been famous for the quality of its honey. It is claimed that there is none better in the country. The same can be said of Kinney County.

The flavor of the honey of these parts is due to the presence of the juhuilla and catclaw flowers. These grow in large quantities here and are noted for the amount and excellence of nectar they contain.

The honey industry in Southwest Texas owes its prominence to the efforts of T. J. Martin, of Spofford, who was the first to undertake bee culture on a large scale. From his apiaries most of the stock of Uvalde and Kinney has sprung.

COAL PRODUCT IN GEORGIA

United States Geological Survey Reports the Output.

Mines Turned Out 264,822 Tons, Having a Spot Value of \$364,279.

The total production of coal in Georgia in 1908 was 264,822 short tons, having a spot value of \$364,279.

Few States suffered more acutely from the financial depression of 1908, so far as coal production is concerned, than Georgia, the output of the State decreasing from 362,401 short tons in 1907 to 264,822 tons in 1908, a decline of 97,579 short tons, or 26.93 per cent, while the value fell from \$459,680 to \$364,279, a decrease of \$95,401, or 20.75 per cent. The output in 1908 was less than in any year since 1899 and can be attributed almost entirely to the depression in the iron trade, which particularly affected the production of high-grade coals and the manufacture of coke. The quantity of coal made into coke decreased from 141,001 short tons in 1907 to 71,452 tons in 1908, almost exactly 50 per cent. Of the total decrease in the State's coal production in 1908, 71 per cent was in the quantity of coal charged into ovens for the manufacture of coke.

The number of men employed in the coal mines of Georgia in 1908 was 670, who worked on an average of 231 days, compared with 838 men for an average of 232 days in 1907 and 727 men for 273 days in 1906. The efficiency record of the laborers in the coal mines of Georgia cannot properly be compared with that of other States, however, as a great number—considerably more than half—are convicts leased by the State to mining companies. Most of the men worked nine hours a day, but the statistics of production show that the average output per man each day during 1908 was only 1.51 tons, compared with 1.71 in 1907 and 1.62 in 1906. The average production per man for the year was 336 tons, compared with 449 tons in 1907 and 406 tons in 1906. This low efficiency is explained by the fact that the convicts employed in the mines have had no experience as coal miners except during the periods of their incarceration. Where convicts are employed the operations are not subject to interference by labor troubles.

CALCUTTA STEAMSHIP LANDS

She Brings Jute Butts and Cotton Bagging to Charleston.

Nine Years Since Same Vessel Tied Up at Wharves of the Southern City.

Charleston, S. C., July 3.—The British tramp steamship Annie, hailing from Calcutta, with her home in West Hartlepool, England, after a seventy-seven days' trip, arrived in this port yesterday morning, with a cargo of jute butts and cotton bagging, consigned to Street Brothers. She is now at the Charleston Terminal wharf, at the foot of Columbus street.

The Annie brings about 20,000 bales of jute butts and about 8,000 rolls of cotton bagging. The cargo is valued at about \$50,000, and comes to the Charleston Bagging Manufacturing Company. The cotton bagging, being dutiable, will be stored in the bonded warehouse, while the jute butts are a raw product in this country, and will be admitted free.

The Annie is about 340 feet long and 30 feet wide, and has a gross tonnage of about 3,743 tons. She carries thirty-one men, most of whom are Greeks. Only two East Indians are aboard. All of the officers are English. Those in charge are as follows: Captain, J. Jones; first mate, H. A. Peterson; second mate, P. Shea; chief engineer, G. Menzies.

The voyage from Calcutta to Charleston was attended by no mishaps, and was in all a very successful one. Two stops were made in order to coal, the first at Delebo Bay, South Africa, and the other at Trinidad. The ship was somewhat delayed at Delebo Bay, having to wait there a week for coal. St. Helena and Ascension were sighted during the trip.

Everything was bustling on board yesterday afternoon. The Greek sailors, without a word to say, and with their little dirty looking straw hats held on their heads by elastic bands under their chins, were busily engaged in raising beams and getting things ready for unloading. While they were kept busy at this the East Indian cook, having completed their work, were sitting in the kitchen door opening on the deck. They were barefooted and had on about the thinnest garments possible. They seemed to have their eyes wide open and to be taking in the general situation, but were absolutely silent. A yellow dog was licking the toes of one of them, but he seemed not to be aware of the fact at all.

The Annie was here about nine years ago. At that time she loaded a cargo of cotton in Charleston for Liverpool.

Mill Saws Last Log.

The Morton-Lewis-Willey Lumber Company, which has been operating a hand-saw mill near Bristol, Tenn., for nearly eighteen years, cutting an average of about 45,000 feet of lumber daily, this week cut the last log from its timber reservation on Holston Mountain, and the mill has ceased operation. The company will dispose of the plant and retire from business, each stockholder being given growth in the business. The company was founded by Morton, Lewis, and Willey, and has since that time been a family business, having paid out wages amounting monthly to about \$10,000.

Rubber Shipments Increase.

Consul George H. Pickers reports that during the month of April 1909, 25,000 pounds of rubber were shipped to the United States from Para and Manaus, against 2,295,115 pounds in the same month of 1908. The shipments to Europe were 6,191,282 pounds, against 4,444,488 pounds in 1908.

Government Selects Site.

Hickory, N. C., July 3.—The site for the new post-office and government building has finally been decided upon by the government and the title passed from Frank Loughman, of the Fox Park Hotel, to the United States government, adjoining the property formerly occupied by the Hickory Inn, the consideration being \$5,000.

REAL ESTATE ACTIVE

Deals of Large Proportions Reported Last Week.

BUILDING PLANS GOING ON

Senator Rayner Buys Farm in Dorchester County, Md.—H. M. Nichols Acquires Estate in Bethesda District—Rose and Martha Hawlings Purchase Tract in Chevy Chase.

Sales of real estate during the week have been of the usual character, with two or three conveyances of large dimensions. The market in general has been quiet, with the completion of a few deals that have been pending for some time. Building plans are going on with increasing momentum, and several large operations are among those projected during the week.

Senator Rayner, of Maryland, has purchased for his son, through the Soule Realty Company, a summer home, located one mile from Cambridge, Dorchester County, Md., on a broad salt water river, practically a portion of the Chesapeake Bay. The estate contains 165 acres. The mansion is brick, has seventeen large rooms, is steam heated, and has every modern convenience. It is lighted by acetylene, and has hot and cold water bath rooms, as fine as can be found in any city home. The walls are decorated, and the mantels are of Italian marble. The property cost the former owner over \$60,000.

Pennsylvanian Buys Home.

H. M. Nichols, president of the Citizens' Banking Company, of Oil City, Pa., has purchased from the heirs of Samuel C. Viers part of their estate known as the "Home Farm," containing seventy-five acres, for \$15,000. The farm is in the Bethesda district, and is near the estates of Messrs. Weaver, Stillwagon, and Edson. Mr. Nichols intends building a modern residence and contemplating other improvements that will make his farm one of the handsomest of the many fine places in this section. The sale was made through the Soule Realty Company.

Elizabeth C. Boyland, of the firm of Moyer, Boyland & Co., has completed a deal for the transfer of eight and sixteen-one-hundredths acres of ground near Connecticut Avenue Park from William Voght to Misses Rose L. and Martha D. Hawlings. The consideration was \$40,000.

Fronting 700 feet on Belt road, the ground is high and rolling. The Messrs. Hawlings will at once have it subdivided into one-quarter lots, which will be put on the market as building sites.

Four of the lots have already been sold, and the purchasers will erect residences upon them as soon as they have been graded and laid out. The tract is now covered with timothy.

Buys Home in Newton Street.

The dwelling at 762 Newton street northwest, at the corner of New Hampshire avenue, has been sold to W. Offutt, who will occupy the property as his home. This house was built by Middaugh & Shannon about a year ago. The consideration was \$4,500. The deal was made through the office of Shannon & Lachy.

Taggart & Fraser, in connection with Ballard & Latham, have sold to William V. Mahoney, of this city, the Allegheny Hotel at Goheen, Pa. This house falls within the summer resort class, and it is understood the price was in the neighborhood of \$175,000. The Allegheny, which contains several hundred rooms, was built six years ago, and with its equipment, cost about \$250,000.

Taggart & Fraser also sold to Henry E. Kleps the ten-acre tract and fourteen-room house at Takoma Park which for many years was the home of Gen. S. S. Carroll. The consideration was \$135,000.

The same firm proposes entering the field of speculative building. It has purchased six lots at the corner of Twenty-ninth and R streets, Georgetown, and will build there a row of colonial type houses.

Will Build Eighty Houses.

Having purchased eight acres of ground between Fourteenth and Sixteenth streets northwest, Harry Wardman will soon commence to build eighty houses, at a cost of from \$5,500 to \$7,500 each. The total investment will be approximately \$600,000.

The tract consists of the entire Osborn property, fronting on Allison and Buchanan streets, and running from Fourteenth street west nearly to Sixteenth street. It is regarded as being the most available piece of property for building purposes on Fourteenth street between Columbia Heights and Saul's Addition. The price at which it was sold has not been made public.

Grading of the property will be commenced at once. The tract will probably be subdivided into eighty-four lots, each of which will have a twenty-four-foot frontage. On a number of the lots construction of the houses will be commenced this summer.

Architect A. H. Beers will design the residences.

Mr. Wardman also has plans in hand for the erection of seven apartment houses, which will cost about \$600,000.

Sales in Virginia.

W. G. Collins, of Clarendon, Va., reports the following recent sales:

For the Wood-Harmon Co., one lot to Edward A. Wilson, of Indian Lake, N. Y. For Mrs. L. C. Reed of Newburg, Port Mass. one acre and a quarter of land located near Alexandria County Court House, to J. H. Carmichael, of Washington.

For Wood-Harmon Co., two lots at Clarendon, to Arthur J. Porter.

For George W. Easterday, of Washington, one lot at Clarendon to Arthur J. Porter.

For Jacob W. Gerke, one house and three lots at Farlee, to Joseph Stewart, of Washington.

For the Wood-Harmon Co., four lots at Clarendon, to John A. Kinsolver.

Buys Big Lumber Tract.

Hickory, N. C., July 3.—The Reid Lumber Company, a new enterprise recently organized here by W. X. Reid, J. B. Blackwelder, J. T. Spencer, and J. P. Foster, has closed a deal for 600 acres of timber land in Cleveland County near Lawndale. It will begin at once to cut the lumber, which is estimated at 3,000,000 feet.

Smuggling in Chinamen.

Charleston, S. C., July 3.—Systematic smuggling of Chinese into this port is believed by the immigration authorities to have been unheeded through the arrest here by custom-house officials of two stowaway Chinamen and a Chinese laundress. The Chinese, it is believed, are from Jamaica and other West Indian ports.

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OLDEST TREES LIVING.

Those in Calaveras Grove Grown When Pyramids Were Built.

The big trees of California are the oldest living things in the world, says the Boston Globe. Estimates made from cross sections of some of those which have fallen show that the mature trees are more than 4,000 years old. There are trees still flourishing vigorously in the Calaveras grove which were pretty well grown at a time which antedates the pyramids of Egypt. They were centuries old when Rome was founded, and when Columbus started on his voyage of discovery they were hoary with age.

Compared with the giant Sequoias, a creature of to-day, and there are only a few evidences of man's handiwork still in existence—some of the ruins of ancient Greece and Assyria—that were constructed at an earlier date.

In one portion of the grove there are ten trees each of which has a diameter of more than twenty-five feet, and more than seventy with a diameter of from fifteen to twenty-five feet. The bark is from six inches to two feet in thickness, and the trees are so hard that forest fires produce no effect on them.

Indeed, they are almost indestructible except by man, and if saved from the ravages of the lumberman, there is no reason to doubt that they will live for many centuries to come.

But the necessity for such protection is revealed in the statement that each of these big trees contains as much lumber as is ordinarily grown on fifteen or twenty acres of timber land. The Calaveras grove was in the possession of Minnesota lumber concern operating mills on the Pacific Coast, and the government obtained possession by trading an equal amount of